

**Town Council Workshop/ Public Hearing/Closed Session
May 28, 2020**

Present: Randy McLennan, Lee Adams, Frank Vari, Mayor Rich Taylor, Frank Hill, Ed O'Hara, Town Attorney Tom Yeager.

Staff: Town Manager Rob Bernstine, Clerk Tonya Lockwood, Clerk/Treasurer Valerie Walls, Admin Asst. Jesse Cloud

Mayor Taylor called the meeting together at 6: 32pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PROCLAMATION: Chesapeake Country National Scenic Byway

SPECIAL SESSION to go into PUBLIC HEARING

Introduction of the Ordinance:

MOTION: Councilman McLennan made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams, to go into Special Session to conduct a Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Development Ordinance changes for Zoning Administrator, Penalties for Violations, changes for an unlawful demolition. Town Manager Rob Bernstine and Councilman Adam discussed the changes proposed.

Note: According to Maryland State Code, the Public Hearing for the changes are required to be posted in a local paper for two weeks. This was not done, posting on doors at Town Hall and on the Website only. Will repost in the paper and have another public hearing at the June Workshop.

Special Session Continued

MOTION: Councilman McLennan made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to allow Bayheads Brewery to offer growlers and canned beer for purchase in Becks Landing, and to include waiving the rental fee for Becks Landing and sign a hold harmless agreement. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to close the Special Session. All in favor, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- Fireworks

Discussion of moving the fireworks to Labor Day, will discuss with the other partners, Chesapeake Inn and Schaefers. Council is in favor of moving the event to Labor Day. Town Manager will contact both of the partners for their opinions of moving the date. Councilman Vari mentioned that if we weren't in Phase 3 by then, the date will have to be moved again.

NEW BUSINESS

- Proposed Lease from the Army Corp of Engineers for Boat Ramp

The Army Corp is eager for the Town to take over the boat ramp. The lease presented is for 25 years, to 2045. No lease fee, but Town is maintaining the property. Will need to submit a plan each year on how we use the land. Good records must be kept. If we collect fees/funds, we have to put money back into the property. If the Town collects more than needed, the funds go to the Army Corp of Engineers. Town Attorney feels some housekeeping on the lease needed. We could sub-lease to the County to operate as a park, or to allow a bait & tackle shop. No picnic tables are allowed. Any improvements will need the Corps permission.

- MPK Contract

Councilman Vari would like to extend the contract another year; update the number of can, with the same terms we currently have in place.

- State Police Contract Expires June 30, 2020.

Councilman McLennan would like to extend the contract into the next fiscal year.

- Car Show-

No indoor activities, not as congested as fireworks, Council is concerned what Phase the State may be in, (need to be in Phase 3). There is not a date that the decision has to be made. It is one of the most attended events the Town.

Public Comment

Comments regarding selling curbside alcohol beverages, must be in a sealed container, seal the bag and staple the receipt to the bag per Councilman O'Hara.

Councilman Adams commented that if you're allowed on the boardwalk, you should be able to have the car show in Town.

Councilman Hill commented that this past weekend, the Town was loaded with people and most followed the social distancing. He feels we can do the same with the car show.

Councilman McLennan is concerned that by approving the event, we're exposing the Town to be held liable. We should abide by the State Guide Lines. Regarding the Police coverage, if you need police presence, dial 911. We can not adjust hours or locations unless we know. The State Police have done an excellent job.

Regards to police coverage, we can not afford 24 hour coverage seven days a week. Please use the 911 system if you need a presence. We can't adjust hours and locations, unless we know

where to do it. They have done an excellent job, and it's immaterial if they're seen. Use the 911 System.

Mayor – The public also needs to understand, even if officers are on duty for the Town, they have the ability to leave for an emergency or higher priority calls outside of town.

Councilman Vari: During the MML Virtual Summer Conference, he's doing a video talking about the story that was posted in Center Marylander. He will discuss the Town's role in providing masks for the hospitals, visitors and volunteer services. This will air on June 30th and on YouTube. We are one of three other Towns highlighted.

Mayor: Mentioned that the Senior Class at Bohemia Manor have been talking about doing a drive through Town. Nothing is set yet.

Councilman Vari mentioned that each senior did receive a congratulatory letter and a Proclamation from the Town when they graduated.

Town Manager: Modifications of the Governors opening of Restaurants:
Prime 225 would like to use parking spots in front of the restaurant for outside seating. Council wants to help the restaurants. The Governor has encouraged municipalities to work with them as much as possible. Currently no one has requested to close any streets for dining.

MOTION: Councilman Vari has made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to open a Closed Session to consult with the Town Attorney on Legal Matters. All in favor, motion carried.

Back into the workshop:

Summary – Counter offer for the water tower property in North Chesapeake City

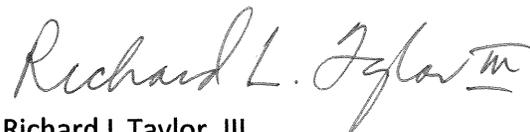
Summary – Boat Slip at half price for five years in exchange for removing the waterfront easement from the Deed to the property owners at 104 Bohemia Avenue.

Workshop adjourned at 9:02pm.

Submitted:



D. Valerie Walls
Clerk/Treasurer



Richard L Taylor, III
Mayor